

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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R 200839Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6366
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USMISSION USUN NY
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 2777

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, AF, IN, PK
SUBJECT: PAKISTAN RELATIONS WITH AFGHANISTAN AND INDIA

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 1516, (B) ISLAMABAD 2735, (C) KABUL 1866,
(D) NEW DELHI 4127

1. IN BRIEF REVIEW OF CONTINUING REGIONAL TREND TOWARD BETTER
RELATIONS, AMB ASKED FOREIGN SECRETARY SHAHNAWAZ 19 MARCH IF
THERE IS ANY SUBSTANCE TO REPORTS WE KEEP HEARING THAT THERE
EXISTS A WRITTEN AGREEMENT BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN ON
SETTLING THEIR PROBLEMS.

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2. FONSEC CATEGORICALLY DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF A WRITTEN
AGREEMENT, NOTING AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT SUCH "WOULD NOT BE
THE AFGHAN WAY." RATHER, HE SAID, PRESIDENT DAOUD HAS MADE A
"PERSONAL COMMITMENT" TO CHIEF MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL
ZIA TO SETTLE AFFAIRS BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN AND THAT
WITH MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, TRUST, AND PATIENCE, THINGS WILL BE

WORKED OUT.

3. AS HE HAS NOTED BEFORE (REF A), FONSEC SUGGESTED BOTTOM LINE IN ALL OF THIS FOR GOP IS AFGHAN ACCEPTANCE OF BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. DAOUD HAS INDICATED THAT HE WANTS THE PROBLEM OUT OF THE WAY; THE GOP BELIEVES "HE MEANS TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT" AND THAT HE "OUGHT TO HAVE THE TIME NECESSARY, PROVIDED IT IS NOT ENDLESS."

4. FONSEC NOTED DUBS' TESTIMONY ON THE HILL ON REGIONAL MATTERS AND ACCEPTED DUBS' POINT THAT CREDIT FOR PRESENT TRENDS RESTS LARGELY WITH VARIOUS LEADERS AMONG THE COUNTRIES OF THE SUB-CONTINENT. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS ALSO A ROLE TO BE PLAYED BY FRIENDS OUTSIDE THE AREA, ONE OF COUNTER-PRESSURE IN THE EVENT THE SOVIETS EXERT PRESSURE ON AFGHANISTAN IN OPPOSITION TO THIS NORMALIZING TREND. "TIME," HE SAID, "DOES NOT WAIT; NOW IS THE TIME TO CLINCH THIS MATTER, WHILE THE SITUATION IS FAVORABLE." AMB AGREED, BUT EXPRESSED SCEPTICISM ABOUT USEFULNESS OF SUPERPOWER (READ USG) ROLE IN THIS BILATERAL MATTER.

5. ON RELATIONS WITH INDIA, FONSEC SAID THAT GOP HAS NOW PROPOSED THAT FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISOR AGHA SHAHI VISIT INDIA 10 THROUGH 13 APRIL. HE CONFIDED THAT HE HAD GIVEN THESE DATES TO INDIAN AMBASSADOR BAJPAI ON SATURDAY IN THE COURSE OF A DISCUSSION THEY HAD -- AT GOP INITIATIVE -- ON FOREIGN MINISTER A. B. VAJPAYEE'S CONFIDENTIAL

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RECENT REMARKS ON KASHMIR (REF B). FONSEC TOLD BAJPAI GOP DOES NOT WISH TO GET INVOLVED IN A PUBLIC BICKER WITH INDIA ON KASHMIR WHICH COULD "VITIATE THE ATMOSPHERE" CREATED RECENTLY. GOP FEARS, HOWEVER, THAT INDIAN FONMIN HAS USED HIS REPORTED REMARKS WITH NORTH KOREAN VISITORS AND IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS IN THE LOK SABHA AND THE RAJYA SABHA TO AFFIRM THAT THE ONLY MATTER AT ISSUE BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN RE KASHMIR IS THE STATUS OF THAT PORTION OF THE FORMER PRINCELY STATE NOW OCCUPIED BY PAKISTAN, I.E. AZAD KASHMIR. FONSEC SAID THIS GOES AGAINST IINDIAN FONMIN'S AFFIRMATION OF THE SIMLA AGREEMENT, INTER ALIA, DURING HIS VISIT TO ISLAMABAD. BAJPAI, HE SAID, PROMISED TO SEEK VARIOUS TEXTS OF FOREIGN MINISTER'S REMARKS FROM DELHI. HUMMEL

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Disposition History: n/a
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